

I. Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of ~~an elongate~~, elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain and engaging with a first guide element fixed to the motor vehicle at a position adjacent the upper edge, a second portion of ~~an~~ elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain and being further attached to the motor vehicle at a point below the first guide element, the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element being attached to the inflatable curtain adjacent the lower edge at at least one point of attachment, the first portion of ~~elongate~~, elongate flexible element ~~incorporating~~ having a slide member ~~adapted to slidably retain a length of~~ retaining the second portion of ~~elongate~~, elongate flexible element, the slide member positioned below the first guide element, whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the lower edge and the at least one point of attachment moves to a position below the first guide element and the slide member moves upwardly toward the first guide element such that the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain .

2. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the first and second portions of ~~elongate~~, elongate flexible element are separate segments of a single ~~elongate~~, elongate flexible element.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The safety device according to Claim 1,~~ A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain, wherein the first and second portions of ~~elongate,~~ elongate flexible element are attached to the inflatable curtain at a common point, the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension of the inflatable curtain.

4. Cancelled.

5. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to ~~Claim 4~~ Claim 1 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

6. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

7. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 6 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are elastic.

8. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 5 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are substantially inextensible.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The safety device according to Claim 1 wherein the point of attachment of one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element to the inflatable curtain~~ A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain at a first point of attachment, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain at a second point of attachment, wherein one of the first or the second points of attachment is in the form of an elastic connection, the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

10. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim ~~9~~ 1 wherein the at least one point of attachment between ~~of both of the first or and~~ the second portions of elongate flexible element and ~~to~~ the inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 1 ~~44~~ ~~wherein the device further comprises~~ further comprising a second guide element positioned within the motor vehicle at a point below the first guide element, the second guide element engaging with the second portion of elongate flexible element between the slide member and the inflatable curtain.

13. (Currently Amended) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain ~~at near the lower edge~~ and engaging with a first guide element fixed to the motor vehicle at a position adjacent the upper edge, a second portion of ~~an~~ elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain ~~at near the lower edge~~ and having a second end attached to the motor vehicle at a point below the first guide element, the first and second portions of elongate flexible element being attached to the inflatable curtain adjacent the lower edge at at least one point of attachment, a second end of the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating having a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of retaining the second portion of elongate flexible element, the slide member positioned below the first guide element, whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the lower edge moves downwardly from the upper edge and the slide member moves upwardly toward the first guide element causing the second portion of elongate flexible element to slide through the slide member and the first and second portions

of the elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

14. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to ~~Claim 13~~, Claim 13 wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are separate segments of a single ~~elongate~~, elongate flexible element.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The safety device according to Claim 13, A~~ safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain and having a second end attached to the motor vehicle, wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are attached to the inflatable curtain at a common point near the lower edge, a second end of the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the lower edge moves downwardly from the upper edge causing the second portion of elongate flexible element to slide through the slide member and the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

16. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

17. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

18. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are elastic.

19. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are substantially inextensible.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein the point of attachment of one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element to the inflatable curtain~~ A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain at a first point of attachment near the lower edge, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain at a second point of attachment near the lower edge and having a second end attached to the motor vehicle, wherein one of the first or the second points of attachment is in the form of an elastic connection, a second end of the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the

inflatable curtain, the lower edge moves downwardly from the upper edge causing the second portion to slide through the slide member and the first and second portions of flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

21. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 13 wherein the at least one point of attachment between ~~of both of the first or~~ and the second portions of elongate flexible element and ~~to~~ the inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

22. Cancelled.

23. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim 13 ~~22~~ ~~wherein the safety device further comprises~~ further comprising a second guide element positioned within the motor vehicle at a point below the first guide element, the second guide element engaging with the second portion of elongate flexible element between the slide member and the inflatable curtain.